

The fundamental limitation: undecidability

- In 1921, David Hilbert put forward the so-called Hilbert's Program, calling for a formalization of all of mathematics in axiomatic form, together with a proof that this axiomatization of mathematics is consistent, to be carried out using only "finitary" methods.
- Kurt Gödel's incompleteness theorems [1] essentially show that Hilbert's Program cannot be carried out.

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David Hilbert



Kurt Gödel

<u>Reference</u>

Gödel, K., "Über formal unentscheidbare Sätze der Principia Mathematica und verwandter Systeme, I", Monatshefte für Mathematik und Physik, vol. 38 (1931), pp. 173–198.

Decision Problems

 A decision problem is a computational problem where the answer is always YES/NO:

 $solve_problem(data) \mapsto {YES, NO}$

- The complement $\neg P$ of a decision problem P is one where all the YES and NO answers are exchanged.

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The termination problem

- "Termination problem": given a sequential program and its input data, will execution of this program on these data ever terminate?
- The complement is the "Nontermination problem": given a sequential program and its input data, will execution of this program on these data never terminate?
- Termination is undecidable (but semidecidable);
- Nontermination is undecidable (and not semidecidable).

Decidability/Semidecidable/Undecidability

A decision problem is:

- "Decidable" if and only if there exists an algorithm to solve the problem in finite time;
- "Undecidable" if and only if there exists no algorithm to solve the problem in finite time;
- "Semidecidable" if and only if there exists an algorithm to solve the problem in finite time when the answer is YES but which may not terminate when the answer is NO;

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Interpretor

- We let Ff be the text file (of type text) containing the text of a program encoding a function f of type text
 > bool;
- We let Fd be the text file (of type text) containing the text encoding the data d
- An interpreter I : text * text -> bool is a program which execution I(Ff, Fd) is the result f(d) of the evaluation of function f on the data d.

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<pre>Termination is semidecidable Terminalson(Ff, Fd) = if I(Ff, Fd) then YES else YES - Will answer YES if and only if I(Ff, Fd) that is f(d) does terminate - Will not terminate if and only if I(Ff, Fd) that is f(d) does not terminate</pre>	Termination is undecidable The proof given by Alonso Church [2] and Alan Turing [3] results from Gödel's second incompleteness theorem [1].
Course 16.399: "Abstract interpretation", Tuesday, February 22, 2005 — 9 — © P. Cousot, 2005	 <u>Reference</u> [2] Church, A., "An unsolvable problem of elementary number theory", <i>Fundamenta mathematicæ</i>, vol. 28, pp. 11-21, (1936). [3] Turing, A.M., "Computability and λ-definability", <i>The Journal of Symbolic Logic</i>, vol. 2, pp. 153-163, (1937). Course 16.399: "Abstract interpretation", Tuesday, February 22, 2005 — 10 — © P. Cousot, 2005
$\begin{tabular}{ c c c c c c c } \hline \hline & & & & & \\ \hline & & & & \\ \hline & & & & \\ \hline & & & &$	<pre>Proof that termination is undecidable It can be schematized as follows: - Assume, by reductio ad absurdum, that we can design a termination algorithm T : text * text -> bool, which execution is assumed to <u>always terminate</u>, and returns T(Ff, Fd) = YES if and only if I(Ff, Fd) terminates and T(Ff, Fd) = NO otherwise.</pre>
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Let Fc be the text of a function c : text -> bool defined by: $c(F) = if T(F, F)$ then $\neg I(F, F)$ else YES Observe that execution of c always terminate, whence T(Fc, Fc) = true It follows that: $I(Fc, Fc) = if T(Fc, Fc)$ then $\neg I(Fc, Fc)$ else YES $= \neg I(Fc, Fc)$ a <u>contradiction</u> . We could also the the terminate of terminate of the terminate of terminate o	 Nontermination is not semidecidable a) Decidable(P) ⇔ [Semidecidable(P) ∧ Semidecidable(¬P)] ⇒ obvious (by defining Semidecision(P) ^{def} = Decision(P) and Semidecision(¬P) ^{def} ¬Decision(P)); ⇐ alternatively execute one step of the semidecision algorithms of P and ¬P. Stop as soon as the first answer is returned. b) ¬Semidecidable(¬Terminaison) By reductio ad absurdum, Semidecidable(Terminaison) and Semidecidable(¬Terminaison) would imply Decidable(Terminaison).
 To prove that a problem P is undecidable, prove, by reductio ad absurdum, that if it were decidable, then the termination problem would be decidable. 	 Constant propagation is undecidable The constant propagation problem: determines whether, after initialization, a variable is constant (is never assigned a different value); The program P does not terminate if and only if the variable X has a constant value after initialization in the program: var X : boolean; (* new variable not in P *) X := true; P; X := false;
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Absence of runtime errors is undecidable What to do about undecidable problems? The absence of runtime errors is not semidecidable: Beyond simply abandoning: - If absence of runtime errors in a program P where semi-- Consider decidable subcases only (but computational decidable then the nontermination of P would be semicomplexity strikes!) decidable, by answering the question to know if P; 1/0- Ask for correct, intelligent, interactive human help has no runtime error. - Accept nontermination - Accept approximations (I don't know) Course 16.399: "Abstract interpretation", Tuesday, February 22, 2005 Course 16.399: "Abstract interpretation", Tuesday, February 22, 2005 — 17 — — 18 — © P. Cousot. 2005 © P. Cousot. 2005

Example of approximation: false alarms

When verifying the absence of runtime errors in a program, it may be the case that the automatic verifier is enable to establish statically that some error can be raised at runtime although this will never happen during execution.

For soundness, it must report a possibility of runtime error, which is impossible. This is called a false alarm.

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Example of false alarms in ASTRÉE

```
% cat -n falsealarm.c
     1 /* falsealarm.c */
     2 void main()
     3 {
        int x, y;
     4
         if ((-4681 < y) && (y < 4681) && (x < 32767) && (-32767 < x)
          \&\& ((7*y*y - 1) == x*x)) \{
     6
              y = 1 / x;
          };
     7
     8 }
% astree -exec-fn main falsealarm.c | grep WARN
falsealarm.c:6:9-6:14:[call#main@2:]: WARN: integer division by zero
                                                [-32766, 32766]
%
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	Computational Complexity
Computational Complexity	 Decidable problems can have a very high computational complexity; The time complexity of a problem is the number of steps that it takes to solve an instance of the problem, as a function of the size of the input, (usually measured in bits) using the most efficient algorithm; For example sorting an <i>n</i>-elements array is O(n log n);
Course 16.399: "Abstract interpretation", Tuesday, February 22, 2005 — 21 — ⓒ P. Cousot, 2005	1Recall the big O notation: if $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ are two rean functions then $f(x)$ is $\mathcal{O}(g(x))$ as $x \to +\infty$ if and only if there exist numbers x_0 and M such that $ f(x) \le M g(x) $ for $x > x_0$.Image: Course 16.399: "Abstract interpretation", Tuesday, February 22, 2005 -22

Complexity Classes

- the class P consists of all those decision problems that can be solved in polynomial time in the size of the input on a deterministic sequential machine;
- the class NP consists of all those decision problems whose positive solutions can be verified in polynomial time given the right information¹;
- the class co-NP consists of all those decision problems whose complement is in P.
- <u>Reference</u>

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Problem Reduction

- A problem decision A is reducible [5] to a decision problem B
- \iff

Reference

- there exists a deterministic polynomial-time algorithm which transforms instances a of A into instances b of B, such that the answer to b is YES if and only if the answer to a is YES.
- R.M. Karp, "Reducibility among combinatorial problems", In Complexity of Computer Computations, R.E. Miller and J.W. Thatcher, editors, pages 85–103. Plenum Press, New York, NY, 1972.

^[4] Hartmanis, J., and Stearns, R.E. "On the computational complexity of algorithms", Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 117 (1965), 285–306.

² equivalently, whose solution can be found in polynomial time on a non-deterministic machine.



^[7] Stephen A. Cook. "The Complexity of Theorem Proving Procedures". Proceedings Third Annual ACM Symposium on Theory of Computing (STOC), May 1971, pp 151-158.

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What to do about NP-complete problems?

- Small is beautiful: Consider only problems of very small size.
- Special cases: An algorithm that is provably fast if the problem instances belong to a certain special case.
 Fixed-parameter algorithms can be seen as an implementation of this approach.
- Probabilistic: An algorithm that provably yields good average runtime behavior for a given distribution of the problem instances—ideally, one that assigns low probability to "hard" inputs.

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- Heuristic: An algorithm that works "reasonably well" on many cases, but for which there is no proof that it is always fast (a rule of thumb, intuition).
- Approximation: An algorithm that quickly finds a suboptimal solution that is within a certain (known) range of the optimal one.

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SAT solvers

- modern variants of the Davis-Logemann-Loveland algorithm [8] (depth first search with backtracking), such as zchaff² [9];
- stochastic local search algorithms, e.g. WalkSAT [10].
- <u>Reference</u>

- M. Moskewicz, C. Madigan, Y. Zhao, L. Zhang, and S. Malik. "Chaff: Engineering an Efficient SAT Solver". 38th Design Automation Conference (DAC2001), Las Vegas, June 2001.
- [10] Bart Selman, Henry Kautz, and Bram Cohen. "Local Search Strategies for Satisfiability Testing". in Cliques, Coloring, and Satisfiability: Second DIMACS Implementation Challenge, October 11-13, 1993. David S. Johnson and Michael A. Trick, ed. DIMACS Series in Discrete Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science, vol. 26, AMS, 1996.

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Polynomial Time Complexity

- Polynomial-time computability is identified with the intuitive notion of algorithmic efficiency;
- Intuitively valid only for small powers:

			Execution	time	at 10 ⁹	ops/s
`	0	-	())	$\mathcal{O}($	2	

n	$\mathcal{O}(n)$	$\mathcal{O}(n.log(n))$	$\mathcal{O}(n^2)$	$\mathcal{O}(n^3)$	
1	ε	ε	ε	ε	
10	ε	ϵ	$0.1 \mu \mathrm{s}$	$1 \mu { m s}$	
10 ³	$1 \mu { m s}$	$6\mu s$	$1 \mathrm{ms}$	1s	
10 ⁶	1ms	13ms	16mn	32 years	
10 ⁹	1s	20s	32 years	300 000 000 centuries	
10^{12}	16mn	$7.7\mathrm{h}$	300 000 centuries	—	
10^{15}	11.6 days	1 year	_	—	
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^[8] M. Davis, G. Logemann and D. Loveland, "A Machine Program for Theorem-Proving", Communications of ACM, Vol. 5, No. 7, pp. 394-397, 1962

³ A few thousands variables, reported to solve a problem with a million variables and 10 million clauses.

S.A. CookR. KarpJ. HartmanisR.E. Stearn	Large problems A computer program with - 10 000 global variables - represented on 32 bits - and 500 000 lines of code has about $2.10^{19} = 2^{64}$ states!
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	The following slides are based based on:
	Patrick Cousot. Proving Program Invariance and Termination by
Abstract termination proofs	 Parametric Abstraction, Lagrangian Relaxation and Semidefinite Programming (Invited paper). In Sixth International Conference on Verification, Model Checking and Abstract Interpretation (VMCAI'05). Paris, France, January 17—19, 2005. Lecture Notes in Computer Science 3385, © Springer, Berlin, pp. 1—24.
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Proving Termination of a Loop

- 1. Perform an iterated forward/backward relational static analysis of the loop with *termination hypothesis* to determine a *necessary* proper termination precondition
- 2. Assuming the *termination precondition*, perform an forward relational static analysis of the loop to determine the loop invariant
- 3. Assuming the loop invariant, perform an forward relational static analysis of the loop body to determine the loop abstract operational semantics
- 4. Assuming the loop semantics, use an abstraction of Floyd's ranking function method to prove termination of the loop

Arithmetic Mean Example

while (x <> y) do
 x := x - 1;
 y := y + 1
od

The polyhedral abstraction used for the static analysis of the examples is implemented using Bertrand Jeannet's NewPolka library.

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Arithmetic Mean Example

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Forward/reachability properties



Example: partial correctness (must stay into safe states)

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Example: termination (must reach final states)

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Forward/backward properties



Example: total correctness (stay safe while reaching final states)

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Arithmetic Mean Example: Loop Invariant assume ((x=y+2*k) & (x>=y)); {x=y+2k,x>=y}	Arithmetic Mean Example 1. Perform an iterated forward/backward relational static analy sis of the loop with <i>termination hypothesis</i> to determine a <i>necessary</i> proper termination precondition
<pre>while (x <> y) do {x=y+2k,x>=y+2} k := k - 1; {x=y+2k+2,x>=y+2}</pre>	 Assuming the termination precondition, perform an forward relational static analysis of the loop to determine the loop invariant
	3. Assuming the loop invariant, perform an forward relational static analysis of the loop body to determine the loop ab- stract operational semantics
od {k=0,x=y}	4. Assuming the loop semantics, use an abstraction of Floyd's ranking function method to prove termination of the loop
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Arithmetic Mean Example: Body Relational Semantics

Case x < y:	Case x > y:
assume (x=y+2*k)&(x>=y+2);	assume $(x=y+2*k)\&(x>=y+2);$
{x=y+2k,x>=y+2}	{x=y+2k,x>=y+2}
assume (x < y);	assume (x > y);
empty(6)	{x=y+2k,x>=y+2}
assume $(x0=x)\&(y0=y)\&(k0=k);$	assume $(x0=x)\&(y0=y)\&(k0=k);$
empty(6)	{x=y+2k0,y=y0,x=x0,x=y+2k,
k := k - 1;	k := k - 1: $x >= y+2$
x := x - 1;	x := x - 1;
y := y + 1	v := v + 1
empty(6)	{x+2=y+2k0,y=y0+1,x+1=x0,
	x=y+2k,x>=y}
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Arithmetic Mean Example

- 1. Perform an iterated forward/backward relational static analysis of the loop with *termination hypothesis* to determine a *necessary* proper termination precondition
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```
r(x,y,k) = +4.k -2
```

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Idea 2	Relational semantics of while B do C od loops
Express the loop invariant and relational semantics as numerical positivity constraints	 x₀ ∈ ℝ/Q/Z: values of the loop variables before a loop iteration x ∈ ℝ/Q/Z: values of the loop variables after a loop iteration I(x₀): loop invariant, [B; C](x₀, x): relational semantics of one iteration of the loop body
	$igsquare I(x_0) \wedge \llbracket extsf{B}; extsf{C} rbracket(x_0, x) = igstarrow {N \atop i=1}^N \sigma_i(x_0, x) \geqslant_i 0 \hspace{0.2cm} (\geqslant_i \in \{>, \geq, =\})$
	– not a restriction for numerical programs
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Example of linear program (Arithmetic mean) $[A A'][x_0 x]^\top \ge b$	$egin{aligned} ext{Example of quadratic form program (factorial)} \ & [x\ x']A[x\ x']^ op + 2[x\ x']\ q+r \geqslant 0 \end{aligned}$
$ \{x=y+2k, x>=y\} +1.x -1.y >= 0 while (x <> y) do -2.k0 +1.x -1.y +2 = 0 k := k - 1; -1.y +2 = 0 -1.y0 +1.y -1 = 0 -1.x0 +1.x +1 = 0 x := x - 1; +1.x -1.y -2.k = 0 $	$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$
od $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 1 - 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \\ k_0 \\ z \\ y \\ k \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{>}{=} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$ \left[\begin{array}{ccccc} n_0 f_0 N_0 n f N \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0$
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Lagrangian relaxation, formally

Let \mathbb{V} be a finite dimensional linear vector space, N > 0and $\forall k \in [0, N] : \sigma_k \in \mathbb{V} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$.

$$orall x \in \mathbb{V}: \left(igwedge_{k=1}^N \sigma_k(x) \geq 0
ight) \Rightarrow (\sigma_0(x) \geq 0)$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \Leftarrow & \text{soundness (Lagrange)} \\ \Rightarrow & \text{completeness } (lossless) \\ \neq & \text{incompleteness } (lossy) \\ \exists \lambda \in [1, N] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^+ : \forall x \in \mathbb{V} : \sigma_0(x) - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k \sigma_k(x) \ge 0 \\ \text{relaxation} = \text{approximation, } \lambda_i = \text{Lagrange coefficients} \\ \blacksquare \blacksquare & \text{Course 16.399: "Abstract interpretation", Tuesday, February 22, 2005} & -67 - & \bigcirc \text{P. Cousot, 2005} \end{array}$$

Lagrangian relaxation, equality constraints

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{V} : \left(\bigwedge_{k=1}^{N} \sigma_{k}(x) = 0 \right) \Rightarrow (\sigma_{0}(x) \geq 0)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{ soundness (Lagrange)}$$

$$\exists \lambda \in [1, N] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{+} : \forall x \in \mathbb{V} : \sigma_{0}(x) - \sum_{k=1}^{N} \lambda_{k} \sigma_{k}(x) \geq 0$$

$$\wedge \exists \lambda' \in [1, N] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{+} : \forall x \in \mathbb{V} : \sigma_{0}(x) + \sum_{k=1}^{N} \lambda_{k}' \sigma_{k}(x) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\lambda'' = \frac{\lambda' - \lambda}{2})$$

$$\exists \lambda'' \in [1, N] \mapsto \mathbb{R} : \forall x \in \mathbb{V} : \sigma_{0}(x) - \sum_{k=1}^{N} \lambda_{k}' \sigma_{k}(x) \geq 0$$



Yakubovich's S-procedure, completeness cases

- The constraint $\sigma(x) > 0$ is regular if and only if $\exists \xi \in$ $\mathbb{V}: \sigma(\xi) > 0.$
- The S-procedure is lossless in the case of one regular quadratic constraint:

 $x^ op P_0 x + 2q_0^ op x + r_0 \geq 0$

 $orall x \in \mathbb{R}^n: x^ op P_1 x + 2q_1^ op x + r_1 \geq 0 \Rightarrow$

(Lagrange) \Leftarrow (Yakubovich) \Rightarrow

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 $\exists \lambda \geq 0: orall x \in \mathbb{R}^n: x^ op \left(egin{bmatrix} P_0 & q_0 \ q_0^ op & r_0 \end{bmatrix} - \lambda egin{bmatrix} P_1 & q_1 \ q_1^ op & r_1 \end{bmatrix}
ight) x \geq 0.$

Idea 4

Parametric abstraction of the ranking function r

Floyd's method for termination of while B do C

Find an $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$ -valued unkown rank function r which is:

- Nonnegative: $\exists \lambda \in [1, N] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{+i}$:

$$egin{aligned} &orall x_0,x:r(x_0)-\sum\limits_{i=1}^N\lambda_i\sigma_i(x_0,x)\geq 0\ &- \ Strictly\ decreasing:\ \exists\eta>0:\exists\lambda'\in[1,N]\mapsto\mathbb{R}^{+i}:\ &orall\ x_0,x:(r(x_0)-r(x)-\eta)-\sum\limits_{i=1}^N\lambda'_i\sigma_i(x_0,x)\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Parametric abstraction



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$$\begin{split} & \bigoplus_{k=1}^{\infty} (\operatorname{Semantics abstracted in LMI form} (\Longrightarrow if exact abstraction)) \\ & \Rightarrow : \exists \lambda \in [1, N] \to \mathbb{R}_* : \forall x, x' \in \mathbb{D}^n : r(x, x') - \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq 1}}^{N} \lambda_k(x x' 1)^M (x x' 1)^T \ge 0 \\ & \Leftrightarrow : (\operatorname{Choose form of } r(x, x') = (x x' 1) M_0(x x' 1)^T) \\ & \Rightarrow : \exists M_0 : : \exists \lambda \in [1, N] \to \mathbb{R}_* : \forall x, x' \in \mathbb{D}^n : \\ (x x' 1) M_0(x x' 1)^T - \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k=1}}^{N} \lambda_k(x x' 1) M_k(x x' 1)^T \ge 0 \\ & (x x' 1) M_0(x x' 1)^T - \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k=1}}^{N} \lambda_k(x x' 1) M_k(x x' 1)^T \ge 0 \\ & (x x' 1) M_0(x x' 1)^T - \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k=1}}^{N} \lambda_k(x x' 1) M_k(x x' 1)^T \ge 0 \\ & (x x' 1) M_0(x x' 1)^T - \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k=1}}^{N} \lambda_k(x x' 1) M_k(x x' 1)^T \ge 0 \\ & (x x' 1) M_0(x x' 1)^T - \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k=1}}^{N} \lambda_k(x x' 1) M_k(x x' 1)^T \ge 0 \\ & (x x' 1) M_0(x x' 1)^T - \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k=1 \\ k=1 \\ k=1 \\ (x x' 1) M_0(x x' 1)^T - \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k=1 \\ k=1$$



Polynomial methods

Ellipsoid method : Khachian 1979 [11], polynomial in worst case but not good in practice

Interior point method : Narendra Karmarkar 1984 [12], polynomial in worst case and good in practice (hundreds of thousands of variables)

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The interior point method



<u>Reference</u>

^[11] L.G. Khachian. A polynomial algorithm in linear programming. Soviet Math. Dokl., 20:191-194, 1979.

 ^[12] Narendra Karmarkar. "A new polynomial-time algorithm for linear programming". Combinatorica 4(4): 373–396 (1984)



Semidefinite programming solvers

Numerous solvers available under MATHLAB[®], a.o.:

- lmilab: P. Gahinet, A. Nemirovskii, A.J. Laub, M. Chilali
- Sdplr: S. Burer, R. Monteiro, C. Choi
- Sdpt3: R. Tütüncü, K. Toh, M. Todd
- SeDuMi: J. Sturm
- bnb: J. Löfberg (integer semidefinite programming)

Common interfaces to these solvers, a.o.:

- Yalmip: J. Löfberg

Sometime need some help (feasibility radius, shift,...)

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Linear program: termination of Euclidean division

» clear all Iterated % linear inequalities v0 q0 r0 $Ai = [0 \ 0 \ 0; 0 \ 0; 0; 0]$ $\{v > = 1\}$ 0 0 0]; q := 0;yqr $Ai_{=} = [1 \ 0 \ 0; \% \ y - 1 >= 0$ $0 \quad 1 \quad 0; \quad \% \quad q \quad - \quad 1 \geq 0$ $\mathbf{r} := \mathbf{x};$ $0 \quad 0 \quad 1$]; % r >= 0 ${x=r,q=0,y>=1}$ bi = [-1; -1; 0];while $(y \le r)$ do % linear equalities $\{y \le r, q \ge 0\}$ y0 q0 r0 r := r - y;Ae = [0 -1 0; % -q0 + q -1 = 0] $-1 \quad 0 \quad 0; \quad \% \quad -y0 \quad + \quad y = 0$ $0 \quad 0 \quad -1]; \ \% \quad -r0 \quad + y \quad + r = 0$ q := q + 1yqr $Ae_{-} = [0 \ 1 \ 0; \ 1 \ 0 \ 0;$ od 1 0 1]: $a \ge 0, v \ge r+1$ be = [-1; 0; 0];Course 16.399: "Abstract interpretation", Tuesday, February 22, 2005

forward/backward polyhedral analysis:

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General relaxation/approximation idea

- Write the polynomials in quadratic form with monomials as variables: $p(x, y, ...) = z^{\top}Qz$ where $Q \succeq 0$ is a semidefinite positive matrix of unknowns and $z = [\dots x^2, xy, y^2, \dots x, y, \dots 1]$ is a monomial basis
- If such a Q does exist then p(x, y, ...) is a sum of squares ³
- The equality $p(x, y, ...) = z^{\top}Qz$ yields LMI contrains on the unkown $Q: z^{\top}M(Q)z \succcurlyeq 0$

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- Instead of quantifying over monomials values x, y, replace the monomial basis z by auxiliary variables X (loosing relationships between values of monomials)
- To find such a $Q \succeq 0$, check for semidefinite positiveness $\exists Q : \forall X : X^\top M(Q) X \ge 0$ i.e. $\exists Q : M(Q) \succeq 0$ with LMI solver
- Implement with SOStools under MATHLAB[®] of Prajna, Papachristodoulou, Seiler and Parrilo
- Nonlinear cost since the monomial basis has size $\binom{n+m}{m}$ for multivariate polynomials of degree n with m variables

⁴ Since $Q \geq 0$, Q has a Cholesky decomposition L which is an upper triangular matrix L such that $Q=L^{\top}L$. It follows that $p(x) = z^{\top}Qz = z^{\top}L^{\top}Lz = (Lz)^{\top}Lz = [L_{i,:} \cdot z]^{\top}[L_{i,:} \cdot z] = \sum_{i}(L_{i,:} \cdot z)^{2}$ (where \cdot is the vector dot product $x \cdot y = \sum_{i} x_{i}y_{i}$), proving that p(x) is a sum of squares whence $\forall x : p(x) \ge 0$, which eliminates the universal quantification on x.





Handling nested loops

- by induction on the loop depth
- use an iterated forward/backward symbolic analysis to get a necessary termination precondition
- use a forward symbolic symbolic analysis to get the semantics of a loop body
- use Lagrangian relaxation and semidefinite programming to get the ranking function

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Example of termination of nested loops: Bubblesort inner loop

```
. . .
                   Iterated forward/backward polyhedral analysis
+1.i' -1 >= 0
                   followed by forward analysis of the body:
+1.j' -1 >= 0
+1.n0' -1.i' >= 0
-1.j + 1.j' - 1 = 0
-1.i + 1.i' = 0
                   assume (n0 = n \& j \ge 0 \& i \ge 1 \& n0 \ge i \& j <> i);
-1.n + 1.n0' = 0
                   \{n0=n, i \ge 1, j \ge 0, n0 \ge i\}
+1.n0 - 1.n0' = 0
                   assume (n01 = n0 \& n1 = n \& i1 = i \& j1 = j);
+1.n0' -1.n' = 0
                   {j=j1,i=i1,n0=n1,n0=n01,n0=n,i>=1,j>=0,n0>=i}
. . .
                   j := j + 1
                   {j=j1+1,i=i1,n0=n1,n0=n01,n0=n,i>=1,j>=1,n0>=i}
termination (lmilab)
r(n0,n,i,j) = +434297566.n0 +226687644.n -72551842.i
                                                      -2.j +2147483647
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                                                   -111 -
                                                                 © P. Cousot, 2005
```

Example of termination of nested loops: Bubblesort outer loop

```
. . .
                   Iterated forward/backward polyhedral analysis
+1.i' +1 >= 0
+1.n0' -1.i' -1 >= 0 followed by forward analysis of the body:
+1.i' -1.j' +1 = 0
                      assume (n0=n & i>=0 & n>=i & i <> 0):
-1.i + 1.i' + 1 = 0
                    \{n0=n, i \ge 0, n0 \ge i\}
-1.n + 1.n0' = 0
                      assume (n01=n0 & n1=n & i1=i & j1=j);
+1.n0 - 1.n0' = 0
                    {j1=j,i=i1,n0=n1,n0=n01,n0=n,i>=0,n0>=i}
+1.n0' -1.n' = 0
                     j := 0;
                      while (j \iff i) do
                          j := j + 1
                      od:
                      i := i - 1
                    {i+1=j,i+1=i1,n0=n1,n0=n01,n0=n,i+1>=0,n0>=i+1}
termination (lmilab)
r(n0,n,i,j) = +24348786,n0 +16834142,n +100314562,i +65646865
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```







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Numerical errors

- LMI/BMI solvers do numerical computations with rounding errors, shifts, etc
- ranking function is subject to numerical errors
- the hard point is to discover a candidate for the ranking function
- much less difficult, when the ranking function is known, to re-check for satisfaction (e.g. by static analysis)
- not very satisfactory for invariance (checking only ???)

Related work

- Linear case (Farkas lemma):
 - Invariants: Sankaranarayanan, Spima, Manna (CAV'03, SAS'04, heuristic solver)
 - Termination: Podelski & Rybalchenko (VMCAI'03, Lagrange coefficients eliminated by hand to reduce to linear programming so no disjunctions, no tests, etc)
 - Parallelization & scheduling: Feautrier, easily generalizable to nonlinear case

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Seminal work

 LMI case, Lyapunov 1890, "an invariant set of a differential equation is stable in the sense that it attracts all solutions if one can find a function that is bounded from below and decreases along all solutions outside the invariant set".

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THE END, THANK YOU

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